REPORT

ON THE

ADMINISTRATION OF THE OPIUM DEPARTMENT

OF THE

BOMBAY PRESIDENCY

FOR THE

REVENUE YEAR 1892-93,

WITH

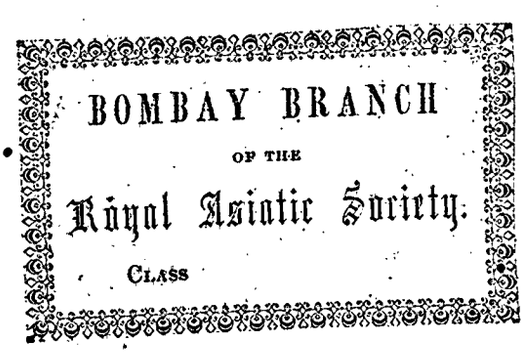
APPENDIX.

LIBRARY OF THE BOMBAY BRANCH OF THE ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY

Bombay:
PRINTED AT THE GOVERNMENT CENTRAL PRESS.

1894.

[Price—4 Annas.]



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1894.

No. 6328 OF 1893.

FROM

THE HONOURABLE T. D. MACKENZIE,
Acting Commissioner of Customs,
Salt, Opium and A'bkári,
Bombay;

To

G. W. VIDAL, ESQUIRE,
Acting Chief Secretary to Government,
Revenue Department,
Bombay.

Camp Nadiád, 10th December 1893.

SIR,

INTRODUCTION.

I have the honour to submit the following report on the administration of the Opium Department of the Bombay Presidency for the revenue year 1892-93, ending 31st July 1893.

SYSTEM OF ADMINISTRATION.

2. The bulk of the opium imported into Bombay is grown and manufactured in Native States in Málwa and Rájputána; and for its weighment and for the issue of the necessary passes, and the recovery of the pass-fees due thereon, Government have established scales and maintained offices at Ahmedabad and at the following places in Central India and Rájputána, *viz.*, Indore, Ujjain, Ratlam, Dhar, Jaora, Ajmir, Mándesar, Bhopál and Chitor. Opium passed at the Government scales is packed in chests, each containing 140¼ lbs., or in half chests containing each 70⅛ lbs. avoirdupois.

3. The manufacture of opium throughout the Presidency is prohibited, and the importation of opium from Málwa is restricted to certain specified routes. All consignments of opium imported into the Presidency are subjected on arrival to examination, and the transport of opium from place to place is permitted only under official passes, and the wholesale trade in the drug has been entirely separated from the retail trade.

4. Under the orders contained in Government Resolution No. 4721, dated the 4th June 1892, the condition in the license penalizing the farmers for sales of opium below a fixed standard was withdrawn in the year under report, and the contractors instead of paying any license fees were required to maintain additional establishments for the supervision of their retailers and for the prevention of smuggling. This change was introduced into all districts except the Town and Island of Bombay, where the term for which the farm was let had not expired, in the five southern districts named in the margin,* and Aden, where the consumption of opium being small, the old license-fee system was retained. The sale of opium or its preparations in any form for consumption on the premises was prohibited, and no licenses for the sale of chandul and madat were, therefore, issued except in the City of Bombay where the prohibition could only be enforced on the expiry of the farm on the 31st July 1893. The maximum quantity of opium allowed to be sold by licensed-vendors to any one person at one time without a special permit was reduced from ten to two tolas throughout the Presidency. Experience, however, having shown that this measure was pressing with undue severity on the people of

* 1. Belgaum.
2. Dhárwár.
3. Bijápur.
4. Kánara.
5. Ratnágiri.

INTRODUCTION.

SYSTEM OF ADMINISTRATION.

that portion of the Thar and Párkar district which lies east of the Eastern Nára Canal, owing to their having to undertake very long and toilsome journeys through the desert to obtain their supplies, and the system of special permits not suiting the requirements of the case, the former limit of 10 tolas was restored in that tract towards the end of the year by Government Notification No. 5515, dated 31st July 1893.

5. Agreements are in force with all Native Chiefs in the Presidency with a view to secure their co-operation in effectually stopping the contraband traffic in opium. Under these agreements—

(1) The cultivation of the poppy has been prohibited in all Native States, except Baroda.

(2) Baroda is permitted to grow the poppy and manufacture opium under a State monopoly, for consumption in its own territory and for export to China. The State has undertaken to assimilate its opium retail system and selling prices to those for the time being in force in adjoining British districts, and to prevent the introduction of Baroda opium into British territory, and into the territories of adjoining Native States.

(3) All other Native States are required to supply themselves with opium for domestic consumption either from some British depôt, or by direct importation from Málwa under regular passes, and to retail it to their subjects at prices not lower than the retail prices for the time being in force in British districts.

(4) All Native Chiefs are bound to exert themselves to prevent the introduction of untaxed opium into their territories.

(5) In return for the obligations undertaken, the States are guaranteed the enjoyment of the privileges enumerated below, so long as they faithfully carry out their agreements.

6. Baroda enjoys the whole of the revenue derivable under its State monopoly, and is, besides, allowed to import from Málwa, free of duty, whatever quantity of Málwa opium may be wanted for its home consumption. Cambay, Pálanpur, the Mahi Kánta and the Rewa Kánta States are allowed a remission of the whole of the British duty levied on opium consumed within their limits; Kutch and Káthiáwár are allowed a similar remission to the extent of one-third; the Sátára Jághirdárs (including the Bhor State, since transferred to the Poona Political Agency, and Jath and Daflápur States since transferred to the Kolhápur Political Agency) of one-tenth; and all other States of one-fifth of the duty. Special compensation has also been granted in all cases in which any loss of the opium revenue formerly enjoyed by Chiefs was found to have been caused by the arrangements.

7. No change has been made during the year under report either in the number or location of the scales for the weighment of opium, in the system of administration, or in the rates of duty, which were, for opium intended for export to China and other foreign countries Rs. 600, and for opium imported for local consumption in the Bombay Presidency Rs. 700 per chest, the rates levied at the scales at Ajmir being as usual Rs. 25 per chest higher in each case.

OPIUM IMPORTS.

STATISTICS.

Total Exports from Agencies and duty realizations.

8. The following statement shows the number of chests weighed and passed at the scales for export to different parts of India, and the amount of duty levied thereon in 1892-93 and in the previous year:—

STATISTICS.

Total Exports from Agencies and duty realizations.

For Export to	1891-92.		1892-93.	
	Chests.	Duty.	Chests.	Duty.
		Rs.		Rs.
Madras Presidency	504½	3,53,150	583	4,08,100
Nizám's territory	391½	2,74,050	418	2,92,600
Hyderabad Assigned Districts ...	265	1,85,500	267	1,86,900
Mysore (duty-free)	20	.....	20	.....
Coorg (do.)	¾	.....	1	.....
Bombay Presidency	31,109½	1,86,98,500	27,066½	1,62,58,650
Do. (duty-free)	279	.....	146½	.....
Total ..	32,570¼	1,95,11,200	28,502	1,71,46,250

Exports to places outside the Presidency.

9. The exports to places outside the Bombay Presidency during the year under report were 1,289 chests, and the duty realizations, Rs. 8,87,600, as against 1,181¾ chests and Rs. 8,12,700 in the preceding year. As observed in previous reports, these exports and realizations are not included in the accounts of this Presidency, and are only incidentally mentioned to show the total amount of work done at the opium agencies connected with the Bombay Opium Department.

Exports from Agencies to Bombay and other places in the Presidency.

10. The exports from the agencies to Bombay and other places in the Presidency on payment of duty were 27,066½ chests, or 4,043 chests less than in the previous year, owing to the depression of trade with China. The duty-free imports under special passes for consumption in Native States entitled to full remission were 146½ chests as compared with 279 chests in 1891-92, in which year Baroda imported from Málwa 130 chests as a special case. The net decrease under duty-free passes from Málwa was therefore only 2½ chests. The imports from Dongarpur under duty-free passes were however larger by 1½ chests, so that the net decrease was only one chest.

Exports from Ajmir and other Agencies.

11. With the exception of Ratlám, which alone shows an increase of 464½ chests, the exports at the other scales fell off. The most noticeable decreases were at Ujjain, Indore, Mándesar and Chitor to the extent of 1,430½, 1,379, 1,368½ and 273½ chests respectively. There were no exports from the Ajmir Agency.

Opium passed from Ahmedabad scales.

12. No Baroda opium was brought to the Ahmedabad scales during the year under report. The imports of Dongarpur were 68 chests, of which 57 were duty-paid and 11 duty-free, the decrease as compared with the preceding year being 7½ chests.

Duty realizations on exports from scales.

13. The pass-fee or duty payable on exports from the agencies in Málwa to places in the Bombay Presidency is levied at the scales in the form of hundis drawn on Bombay, and payable at six days' sight. The hundis must be cashed before the consignee can obtain delivery of the opium. At the Ajmir Agency the duty is paid in cash or by hundi payable at sight, drawn on Bombay, while at Ahmedabad only cash, or hundis payable at sight at the Bank of Bombay, are accepted. The total duty levied under these rules on the opium exported from the several agencies to Bombay and other places within the Presidency was Rs. 1,62,58,650 or Rs. 24,39,850 less than in the previous year.

14. The following table shows the number of chests exported from the scales to places in the Bombay Presidency at each rate of duty in the year under report and the previous year, and the duty paid in cash or by hundis :—

Rate of Duty per Chest.	1891-92.		1892-93.	
	Chests.	Duty.	Chests.	Duty.
		Rs.		Rs.
Rs. 700	328	2,29,600	187½	1,31,250
„ 600	30,781½	1,84,68,900	26,879	1,61,27,400
Total ...	31,109½	1,86,98,500	27,066½	1,62,58,650

OPIUM IMPORTS.

STATISTICS.

Actual Imports into Bombay and actual duty realizations.

15. The actual imports into the Presidency of duty-paid opium were 26,655½ chests, and the duty actually realized by encashment of hundis and brought to account in the year under report was Rs. 1,60,11,600. These figures, which differ from those in the preceding paragraph, have been arrived at in the following manner :—

	Chests.	Duty. Rs.
Chests passed and duty levied at the scales in 1892-93	27,066½	1,62,58,650
Deduct—Number which had not arrived in Bombay before the close of the year, including—		
(*a*) Chests on which duty was realized within the year	...	.....
(*b*) Chests on which duty was not realized within the year... ...	708½	4,25,700
	26,358	1,58,32,950
Add—Chests passed at the scales in 1891-92 which arrived in Bombay in 1892-93, including—		
(*a*) Chests on which duty was realized in 1891-92	...	.....
(*b*) Chests on which duty was realized in 1892-93	297½	1,78,650
Total actual arrivals and realizations in Bombay...	26,655½	1,60,11,600

16. The transactions detailed in the two preceding paragraphs for the year under report are summarized and contrasted below with similar figures for the previous three years and with the annual average of three years ending with 1888-89, the differential duty on opium sold in Bombay for home consumption being also shown for the periods in question :—

Years.	Chests cleared and Duty levied at the Scales.			Chests arrived and Duty realized in Bombay.				
	Number of Chests.		Amount of Duty levied.	Number of Chests.		Amount of duty realized.	Amount of differential Duty realized.	Total amount of Duty realized.
	Duty-paid.	Duty-free.		Duty-paid	Duty-free.			
			Rs.			Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Annual average of three years ending 1888-89	36,127	132	2,35,02,742	36,596	132	2,38,02,550	59,222	2,38,61,772
In 1889-90...	28,844½	133	1,86,47,375	28,835½	133	1,86,56,125	75,635	1,87,31,760
„ 1890-91...	30,086	236	1,80,81,600	30,079½	236	1,80,69,450	1,20,783	1,81,90,233
„ 1891-92...	31,109½	279	1,86,98,500	30,848½	279	1,85,37,250	1,22,720	1,86,59,970
„ 1892-93...	27,066½	146½	1,62,58,650	26,655½	146½	1,60,11,600	1,27,343	1,61,38,943

17. It will be seen from the table subjoined to the preceding paragraph that the actual arrivals in the Bombay Presidency during the year under report, including duty-free imports, were 26,802 chests, or 4,325½ chests less than in the preceding year. The duty realizations fell off by Rs. 25,21,027.

18. Of the 26,802 chests imported, 26,472½ were brought to Bombay and lodged in the Government Central Warehouse. The remaining 329½ chests, which include 146½ chests imported free of duty by Native States, and 183 chests imported for home consumption on payment of duty at Rs. 700 per chest by opium farmers in the British districts and in Native States entitled to partial or full remission of duty, were conveyed direct to their destinations in the Native States and Collectorates concerned, as noted below :—

STATISTICS.
Imports by Native States and farmers of British Districts under duty-paid and duty-free passes.

Duty-paid at Rs. 700 per Chest :—		
Káthiáwár	158	
Poona	16	
Sholápur	9	
		183
Duty-free :—		
Pálanpur	49½	
Mahi Kánta	49½	
Rewa Kánta	33½	
Cambay	14	
		146½
Total ...		329½

19. The Bombay Central Warehouse account for the year under report stood as under :— Bombay Central Warehouse account.

	Chests.
Book balance on 31st July 1892	476
Add—Excess discovered on stock being taken at the end of the year 1891-92	7
Actual stock on 1st August 1892	483
Imported during the year under report	26,472½
Returned from Broach	5
Total Stock ...	26,960½
Exported to China	25,243½
Do. to Zanzibar and other African ports	10
Do. to Cochin and Allepey	57
Do. to Singapore	2
Sold for home consumption—	
(*a*) To Native Chiefs of—	
Dharampur 1	
Bhor 3	
Phaltan 2	
Kutch 62	
Káthiáwár 70	
Cambay 5	
Rewa Kánta 12	
155	
(*b*) To licensed opium vendors of—	
Bombay 120	
Ahmedabad 119	
Kaira 84	
Panch Mahals 28	
Broach 67½	
Surat 21	
Thána 7½	
Násik 36	
Khándesh 93	
Ahmednagar 62	
Poona 50	
Sholápur 40	
Sátára 25	
Kolába 4½	
757½	
(*c*) To Government for supply of depôts ... 357	
(*d*) To Government, being equivalent of 534 lbs. and 20 tolas of touch . . 6½	
1,276	
Total disposed of ...	26,588½
Book Balance on 31st July 1893 ...	372
Total ...	26,960½

OPIUM IMPORTS.

STATISTICS.

Bombay Central Warehouse Account.

20. On stock being taken at the end of the year under report, the balance of opium actually found in the warehouse was 380 chests, 55 lbs., 26 tolás and 120 grains or 8 chests, 55 lbs., 26 tolás and 120 grains in excess of the book balance, which is equal to an average gain of 1 tola and 138 grains per chest. This excess is attributable to 90 per cent. of the opium imported during the year being old and ordinary, while 10 per cent. of it was new.

DISTRIBUTION.

EXPORTS TO CHINA.

21. As will be observed from the marginally noted figures for the past ten years, there has been a gradual decline of exports to China, which, as usual, stand foremost in the list of distribution from the Bombay warehouse. It is true that in 1891-92 there was an increase of 707 chests as compared with the preceding year, but the improvement was apparently temporary judging from the figures for the year under report, which shows a falling off of 3,878½ chests as contrasted with 1891-92. As compared with 1883-84 the exports are now less than two-thirds of what they were ten years ago. As stated in the reports for previous years this gradual decline is due to increased production of opium in China itself, its improved quality and the cheapness of the indigenous drug as compared with the Indian opium owing to inequality in the incidence of taxation. The large falling off during the year under report was, to some extent, due to the change in the currency laws towards the close of the year, which disturbed the trade with China.

	Chests.
1883-84	39,763½
1884-85	39,819
1885-86	37,173
1886-87	37,838
1887-88	36,353
1888-89	29,777½
1889-90	28,372
1890-91	28,415
1891-92	29,122
1892-93	25,243½

Opium prices in China, Bombay and Calcutta.

22. The following statement shows the prices of opium ruling in the Bombay market in each month of the two years 1891-92 and 1892-93 contrasted with the prices quoted for similar opium in the principal China markets of Hongkong and Shanghai and in the Calcutta market :—

	1891-92.								1892-93.							
	Bombay Market.		China Market.				Calcutta Market. (a)		Bombay Market.		China Market.				Calcutta Market. (a)	
			Hongkong.		Shanghai.						Hongkong.		Shanghai.			
	One year old.	Two years old.	One year old.	Two years old.	One year old.	Two years old.	Patna.	Benares.	One year old.	Two years old.	One year old.	Two years old.	One year old.	Two years old.	Patna.	Benares.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
August	1,103	1,171	1,135	1,201	1,139	1,223	1,064	1,033	1,185	1,238	1,247	1,281	1,264	1,318	1,284	1,299
September	1,105	1,168	1,144	1,221	1,160	1,220	1,078	1,033	1,184	1,222	1,244	1,284	1,246	1,302	1,355	1,400
October	1,097	1,168	1,131	1,216	1,150	1,225	1,078	1,019	1,170	1,213	1,224	1,285	1,215	1,281	1,333	1,377
November	1,129	1,173	1,126	1,221	1,148	1,232	1,073	1,014	1,155	1,196	1,183	1,244	1,189	1,264	1,269	1,271
December	1,104	1,176	1,124	1,218	1,145	1,232	1,066	1,015	1,164	1,208	1,179	1,240	1,192	1,258	1,254	1,247
January	1,093	1,168	1,124	1,214	1,152	1,231	1,078	1,017	1,162	1,201	1,179	1,241	1,189	1,249	1,256	1,271
February	1,106	1,166	1,135	1,222	1,163	1,245	1,138	1,099	1,157	1,201	1,179	1,241	1,211	1,263	1,304	1,315
March	1,096	1,178	1,152	1,234	1,172	1,263	1,170	1,149	1,144	1,200	1,176	1,238	1,204	1,265	1,284	1,303
April	1,096	1,184	1,150	1,233	1,163	1,254	1,138	1,083	1,136	1,194	1,178	1,240	1,195	1,279	1,207	1,221
May	1,125	1,207	1,156	1,242	1,192	1,280	1,201	1,134	1,141	1,194	1,189	1,248	1,195	1,279	1,197	1,165
June	1,152	1,206	1,168	1,257	1,213	1,288	1,225	1,169	1,150	1,199	1,168	1,225	1,165	1,233	1,190	1,171
July	1,182	1,225	1,211	1,273	1,246	1,303	1,270	1,262	1,117	1,166	1,127	1,189	1,110	1,188	1,024	1,021
Average ...	1,116	1,183	1,146	1,229	1,170	1,250	1,132	1,086	1,155	1,203	1,189	1,246	1,198	1,265	1,246	1,255

(a) *Note.*—In Calcutta, opium of two seasons is not in the market at the same time and therefore there is only one price for each of the two varieties (Behar and Benares) of opium sold at Government sales.

23. The average prices of opium in the Bombay market rose from Rs. 1,116 in the preceding year to Rs. 1,155 in the year under report per chest for new opium, and from Rs. 1,183 to Rs. 1,203 for old opium. These prices include the duty paid at the scales.

DISTRIBUTION.

EXPORTS TO FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

Exports to Foreign Countries and to Ports in other Presidencies.

24. The African ports imported 10 chests as against 15½ in the previous year. Two chests were sent to Singápur. The exports to Cochin and Allepey rose from 51 chests in the preceding year to 57 in the year under report.

HOME CONSUMPTION.

25. The remaining 1,276 chests were sold for consumption in the Bombay Presidency, as under:—

Wholesale transactions.

	Chests.
(*a*). To Government for the supply of their depôts, from which opium is issued to Native States and to licensed retailers in British districts	363½
(*b*). To British opium farmers	757½
(*c*). To Native Chiefs	155
	1,276

It may be mentioned that these 1,276 chests are in addition to the 329½ chests referred to in para. 18 above as having been imported direct by British opium farmers and Native States without passing through the accounts of the Bombay Central Warehouse. Thus the year's stock for home consumption throughout the Bombay Presidency was 1,605½ chests, as against 1,721 chests in the preceding year. The Baroda State consumes opium manufactured locally and the accounts therefor are presented separately further on in this report.

Standard of weight used for purposes of accounts.

26. The standard of weight adopted in retailing opium and in keeping the opium accounts at Government depôts, and those rendered by farmers and Native States throughout the Presidency, is pounds, tolas and grains, each pound containing 40 tolas and each tola 180 grains. The accounts given below are according to this standard.

Government stock and purchases.

27. Government bought in the year under report 363½ chests, the price paid, therefor, being Rs. 4,60,422, and the weight of the opium brought to account 49,126 lbs., while 45 lbs. were also purchased locally for Rs. 447. The total purchases were, therefore, 49,171 lbs. at a cost of Rs. 4,60,869, or on an average Rs. 9-6-0 per lb. as against Rs. 9-3-8 in the previous year. The balance in the depôt at the commencement of the year was 30,459 lbs. valued at Rs. 2,84,352. Including this balance the total stock for the year was 79,630 lbs. of the aggregate value of Rs. 7,45,221, giving an average cost of Rs. 9-5-9 per lb. as compared with Rs. 9-3-5 in the previous year.

Government issue rate.

28. Opium was issued from the Government depôts at the rate of Rs. 9-12-0 per lb. up to the 14th February 1893 in the Presidency proper, after which date it was reduced to Rs. 9-8-0 in all districts, except Ahmedabad, Kaira, the Panch Mahals, Broach, and Surat, and the depôts at Rájkot, Sádra, Pálanpur, and Baroda Cantonment, where it was raised to Rs. 10. The rate in Sind and Aden remained the same as in the preceding year, *viz.*, Rs. 10.

Issues from Government depôts.

29. The issues from the Government depôts during the year were 52,990 lbs., of which 21,722 lbs. were supplied to British licensed retailers, 447 lbs. to the Medical Storekeeper, and 30,821 lbs. were sold to Native Chiefs. The realizations were Rs. 5,22,755, of which Rs. 77,106 were adjusted by credit to sale-

DISTRIBUTION.

HOME CONSUMPTION.

proceeds and debit to "Refunds and Drawbacks," on account of remission of pass-fees in favour of the Native Chiefs to whom the opium was supplied. The prime cost of the opium sold was Rs. 4,95,976. Deducting from the realizations (1) the prime cost, (2) the value (Rs. 3,516) of 376 lbs. of opium written off as loss from dryage and wastage in the depôts, (3) the charges, Rs. 8,696, incurred on account of the transport of opium from Bombay to up-country depôts, and (4) Rs. 1,962, the cost of the maintenance of the Government depôts at Sádra and at Pálanpur, the net profit was Rs. 12,605.

Closing balance.

30. Deducting the issues and the loss by dryage from the opening balance and purchases there remained in stock in the Government depôts at the end of the year a balance of 26,264 lbs. of opium valued at Rs. 2,45,729.

RETAIL TRANSACTIONS.

BRITISH DISTRICTS.

Quantities placed on sale.

31. Turning now to the retail transactions of the year and commencing with British districts, the total quantity of opium which was placed on sale at the shops, exclusive of unsold stocks taken over at the beginning of the year by the incoming from the outgoing licensees, which do not pass through the Government accounts, was as under :—

	Lbs.
Issued from Government depôts, as per paragraph 29	21,722
Imported by licensees from Málwa as per paragraph 18 (25 chests)	3,403
Purchased by licensees in Bombay market as per paragraph 19 (757½ chests) ...	103,104
	128,229

Quantities sold.

32. The quantities which actually passed into consumption during the year under report in each British district are shown in the subjoined table, in contrast with the licit sales in the year 1891-92 :—

Names of Districts.	1891-92.	1892-93.
	Lbs.	Lbs.
Bombay	19,854	18,223
Ahmedabad	18,374	15,104
Kaira	12,818	10,104
Panch Mahals	3,197	3,341
Broach	8,693	8,762
Surat...	3,250	3,102
Thána	1,332	1,062
Khándesh	15,159	13,067
Násik	5,331	5,324
Ahmednagar	10,045	9,392
Poona	9,003	8,996
Sholápur	6,961	6,467
Sátára	4,397	3,234
Belgaum	724	570
Dhárwár	696	598
Bijápur	367	489
Kánara	138	134
Ratnágiri	271	272
Kolaba	637	729
Karáchi	4,904	4,427
Hyderabad	10,926	10,070
Shikárpur	3,413	3,543
Aden...	148	139
Total ...	140,638	1,27,149

DISTRIBUTION.

HOME CONSUMPTION.

BRITISH DISTRICTS.

Actual sales, &c.

33. The total licit sales of opium in the British districts decreased, on the whole, during the year by 13,489 lbs. as compared with the previous year. The decrease was chiefly in the districts named in the margin, but with reference to Khándesh and Hyderabad it may be observed that the sales there were nearly equal to the average of the three years ending 1889-90. The Bijápur district, which consumes very little opium, shows an increase of 122 lbs. The increases and decreases in the other districts being small do not call for special remarks. The year under report has been noted for changes, *viz.*, the abolition of the minimum guaranteed vend system, the reduction of the limit quantity which may legally be sold to or possessed by one person without special permit from 10 to 2 tolas, and the closing of the chandul and madat shops throughout the Presidency except in Bombay city, where, however, the change is now in force. These changes undoubtedly account in great measure for the smaller sales of licit opium in the districts referred to. It may be noted that in 1891-92, the licit opium used in the chandul and madat in the mofussil districts amounted to 2,334 lbs.

	Decrease. Lbs.
Ahmedabad ...	3,270
Kaira	2,714
Bombay... ...	1,631
Sátára	1,163
Khándesh ...	2,092
Hyderabad ...	856
Ahmednagar ...	653
Sholápur ...	494
Karáchi ...	477

NATIVE STATES SUPPLIED THROUGH GOVERNMENT.

34. In discussing the transactions in the Native States under the Bombay Presidency, I follow the plan adopted in the last report, *viz.*, to begin with those States whose supplies are obtained through the British Government, and have been included in the total Government stock receipts accounted for above, paragraph 25, leaving Baroda, which grows its own opium both for export and for home consumption, to be dealt with separately.

Quantities supplied.

35. The total quantities indented for by Native States during the year under report, according to the figures given in paragraphs 18, 19 and 29, are shown below, together with the corresponding totals for 1890-91 and 1891-92 :—

Name of State or Political Agency.	From Ma'lwa.				From Bombay.				Issued from Government Local Depôt.	Total, 1892-93.	Corresponding Totals for	
	Imported free of Duty.		Imported on payment of Duty.		Purchased in the Market.		Issued from the Government Main Depôt.				1890-91.	1891-92.
	Chests.	Lbs.	Chests.	Lbs.	Chests.	Lbs.	Chests.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.
Baroda	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	9,528	17,694
Kutch	...	...	...	...	62	8,439	...	...	...	8,439	9,528	6,125
Káthiáwár...	...	...	158	21,506	70	9,528	...	...	17,760	48,794	47,948	48,732
Pálanpur	49½	6,737	...	...	...	...	...	...	5,507	12,244	13,021	13,875
Mahi Kánta	49½	6,737	...	...	...	...	3	408	3,462	10,607	9,932	8,597
Rewa Kánta	33½	4,560	...	...	12	1,633	...	...	...	6,193	5,989	5,716
Cambay	14	1,960	...	...	5	681	...	...	...	2,587	3,130	2,178
All other States	...	...	...	...	6	816	4	545	3,139	4,500	2,976	3,748
Total for 1892-93 ...	146½	19,940	158	21,506	155	21,097	7	953	29,868	93,364	1,02,052	1,06,665
Corresponding totals for. { 1890-91	236	32,122	186½	25,385	145½	19,804	5	680	34,061	1,02,052	...	...
{ 1891-92	279	37,975	208½	28,379	113¼	15,448	6	816	24,047	1,06,665	...	...

Quantities sold.

36. The information available as to the quantities sold out of these stocks is furnished in the accounts rendered by the Darbárs concerned, and these I present below, premising that any differences between the quantities indented for as shown above and those actually credited in the accounts are due to the circumstance that purchases made at the end of one year sometimes do not appear in the Darbár accounts till after the beginning of the next year.

Kutch opium accounts.

37. The licit sales in Kutch are compared in the subjoined abstract with the sales in 1889-90, 1890-91, 1891-92 and the average of the three years ending 1888-89 :—

DISTRIBUTION.

HOME CONSUMPTION.

NATIVE STATES SUPPLIED THROUGH GOVERNMENT.

Quantities sold.

Kutch.

	Average of three years ending 1888-89.	1889-90.	1890-91.	1891-92.	1892-93.
	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.
Stock on hand at the beginning of the year ...	2,977	2,511	3,945	4,413	2,455
Imported during the year...	9,987	12,600	9,800	6,300	8,680
Confiscated opium ...	176	49	3	46	7
Total Stock ...	13,140	15,160	13,748	10,759	11,142
Issued to licensed retailers and used for private consumption of the Darbár ...	9,917	10,880	9,098	8,155	8,912
Dryage	324	335	237	149	241
Stock on hand at the end of the year	2,899	3,945	4,413	2,455	1,989
Total ...	13,140	15,160	13,748	10,759	11,142

The licit consumption in this State during the year under report, though it shows an increase of 757 lbs. over the past year, is still below the figures quoted for the years 1889-90, 1890-91, and the average of three years ending 1888-89.

Káthiawár.

38. The accounts furnished by the States and Chiefs in Káthiáwár are summarized below :—

	Annual average of three years ending 1888-89.	1889-90.	1890-91.	1891-92.	1892-93.
	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.
Stock on hand at the beginning of the year ...	10,065	8,009	9,007	9,270	9,802
Imported by direct purchase in Bombay and Málwa.	32,417	28,175	33,211	33,960	31,717
Purchased from Rájkot Depôt	14,634	20,046	14,940	13,955	17,760
Confiscated opium ...	231	27	142	69	54
Excess found in stock on reweighment	9	...	2	10	7
Total Stock ...	57,356	56,257	57,302	57,264	59,340
Sold to public or licensed retailers and used for private consumption of the Darbárs	47,833	46,863	47,730	47,099	50,474
Loss from dryage ...	360	387	302	363	313
Stock on hand at the end of the year	9,163	9,007	9,270	9,802	8,553
Total of sales, Loss and Balance	57,356	56,257	57,302	57,264	59,340

Licit sales in each main division of Káthiáwár.

39. The following statement shows the licit sales in each main division of Káthiáwár. Details as regards some of the principal Native States comprised in each division are also given in the statement :—

DISTRIBUTION.

HOME CONSUMPTION.
NATIVE STATES.
Licit sales in each main division of Káthiáwár.

Names of Divisions and States.	Annual average of three years ending 1888-89.	1889-90.	1890-91.	1891-92.	1892-93.
	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.
Jhálávád—					
Dhrángadhra	1,759	1,447	1,454	1,331	1,396
Vánkáner	464	501	485	501	518
Limbdi	80	249	169	858	431
Wadhwán (including) Wadhwán Thána and Civil Station) ...	1,146	873	1,064	1,011	1,858
Lakhtar	211	157	200	241	246
Bajána	473	322	300	238	187
Other States	2,959	3,595	3,399	3,087	3,656
Total ...	7,092	7,144	7,071	7,267	8,292
Sorath—					
Junágad	7,587	7,180	6,731	6,801	8,530
Porbandar	1,245	1,329	1,223	1,151	1,274
Jáfrábád	196	189	214	244	230
Other States	5,407	5,328	5,318	4,702	4,632
Total ...	14,435	14,026	13,486	12,898	14,666
Hálár—					
Návánagar	5,012	5,163	4,734	4,562	4,814
Morvi	1,358	1,663	1,270	1,283	1,587
Gondal	2,526	2,836	2,725	2,602	2,712
Dhrol	444	465	492	614	604
Rájkot (including Civil Station)	2,201	1,754	1,934	2,405	2,570
Other States	4,494	3,921	4,079	3,633	3,342
Total ...	16,035	15,802	15,234	15,099	15,629
Gohelvád—					
Bhávnagar	7,663	7,492	9,727	8,724	8,684
Pálitána	745	628	703	1,025	904
Other States	1,863	1,771	1,509	2,086	2,299
Total ...	10,271	9,891	11,939	11,835	11,887
GRAND TOTAL ...	47,833	46,863	47,730	47,099	50,474

40. The licit sales of opium during the year under report were larger than those of the preceding year by 3,375 lbs. All the divisions show increases. In Jhálávád, which borders on the Northern Frontier preventive line, the increase amounted to 1,025 lbs. or 14·10 per cent., and is probably due to a less quantity of smuggled opium having found its way across the frontier line. The licit sales in Dhrángadhra have not, however, yet come up to those reported for 1890-91 and previous years, while those in Limbdi and Bajána during the year under report were less than those in the preceding year, and point to the need of stricter preventive arrangements on the parts of the States concerned.

DISTRIBUTION.

HOME CONSUMPTION.
NATIVE STATES.

Pálanpur, Máni Kánta, Rewa Kánta and Cambay.

41. The accounts of opium transactions in Pálanpur, the Mahi Kánta, the Rewa Kánta and Cambay, as furnished by the Chiefs concerned, are summarized together below :—

Names of States.	Opening Stock.	Imported and locally purchased.	Total Stock.	Sold and consumed.	Loss from dryage.	Closing Stock.
	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.
Pálanpur.						
Annual average of three years ending 1888-89	2,040	12,832	14,872	12,245	186	2,441
In 1889-90	3,050	11,845	14,895	12,685	217	1,993
,, 1890-91	1,993	12,137	14,130	13,003	231	896
,, 1891-92	896	14,760	15,656	12,032	261	3,363
,, 1892-93	3,363	11,157	14,520	12,264	217	2,039
Mahi Kánta.						
Annual average of three years ending 1888-89	1,230	9,311	10,541	9,202	133	1,206
In 1889-90	1,313	10,030	11,343	10,042	132	1,169
,, 1890-91	1,169	9,937	11,106	9,683	122	1,301
,, 1891-92	1,301	8,629	9,930	9,390	94	446
,, 1892-93	446	10,624	11,070	10,333	102	635
Rewa Kánta.						
Annual average of three years ending 1888-89	1,306	4,564	5,870	4,442	193	1,235
In 1889-90	683	5,872	6,555	5,652	223	680
,, 1890-91	680	6,344	7,024	5,929	233	862
,, 1891-92	862	6,806	7,668	6,274	261	1,133
,, 1892-93	1,133	6,427	7,560	6,324	230	1,006
Cambay.						
Annual average of three years ending 1888-89	131	2,899	3,030	2,899	...	131
In 1889-90	87	2,986	3,073	2,713	...	360
,, 1890-91	360	2,593	2,953	2,517	...	436
,, 1891-92	436	2,710	3,146	2,721	...	425
,, 1892-93	425	2,330	2,755	2,497	...	258

42. The licit sales of opium in each of the last four years in some of the principal Native States under the Pálanpur Superintendency and in the Mahi Kánta and the Rewa Kánta are shown in the following table, together with the averages for the three years ending 1888-89 :—

Names of States.	Annual average of three years ending 1888-89.	1889-90.	1890-91.	1891-92.	1892-93.
	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.
Pálanpur Superintendency.					
Pálanpur...	4,022	4,212	4,005	3,145	3,208
Rádhanpur	2,895	2,672	2,739	2,568	2,640
Tharád	1,130	1,297	1,272	1,141	996
Mahi Kánta.					
I'dar	1,245	1,126	1,002	1,548	1,572
Dánta	274	334	284	278	269
Rewa Kánta.					
Rájpipla	1,678	1,531	1,872	2,080	2,105
Chhota Udepur	296	315	283	297	283
Sunth	211	470	405	396	438
Lúnávada	279	757	842	814	750
Bálásinor	404	651	504	480	386
Báriya	374	537	551	510	520

DISTRIBUTION.

HOME CONSUMPTION.
NATIVE STATES.

43. The increases noticeable in the licit consumption in the several States under the Pálanpur Superintendency and the Rewa Kánta Agency are very trifling and call for no remarks. The sales in Mahi Kánta, though they are in excess of the previous year by 943 lbs., are yet below the figures quoted for the years 1889-90 and 1890-91 and the average of three years ending 1888-89. The State of Cambay shows a falling off of 224 lbs. as compared with the previous year.

44. The remaining States other than Baroda obtain their supplies from the nearest British depôt or from the Central Depôt at Bombay. The consumption is small, and for the most part they submit no detailed accounts. With a few exceptions the quantities supplied during the year, which are given below, represent the licit consumption sufficiently accurately for practical purposes. It may, however, be noted that Sávantvádi gets its supply biennially, and Bánsda having obtained one whole chest in 1891-92 did not indent for any during the year under report, the average annual consumption being about half a chest :—

Name of State.	Annual average of three years ending 1888-89.	1889-90.	1890-91.	1891-92.	1892-93.
	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.
Dharampur	216	171	156	166	136
Bánsda	85	80	68	136	...
Sachin	32	32	32	32	57
Jawhár	7	6	8	7	8
Surgána	1	1	...	1	6
Akalkot	177	202	200	244	237
Bhor	310	327	348	416	459
Phaltan	251	296	431	523	423
Jath	51	81	59	50	69
Aundh	135	174	192	187	310
Sávantvádi	23	68	...	68	...
Kolhápur	227	136	136	272	272
Sángli	387	409	418	521	840
Miraj (Senior) ...	190	358	424	551	851
Do. (Junior) ...	66	74	86	137	282
Kurundvád (Senior) ...	51	103	63	112	70
Do. (Junior) ...	59	49	52	51	21
Jamkhandi	72	78	57	57	91
Mudhol	52	52	46	39	44
Rámdurg	22	13	30	18	20
Sávanúr	23	30	34	24	32
Janjira	91	136	136	136	272
Total ...	2,528	2,876	2,976	3,748	4,500

Baroda.

45. This completes the distribution of the opium which has passed through the Government accounts, and I now turn to the figures of production and consumption in the Baroda State, which are given below :—

	Average of three years ending 1888-89.	1889-90.	1890-91.	1891-92.	1892-93.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Area under poppy cultivation ...	3,213	7,706	6,688	15,411	5,733
Poppy Juice.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.
Stock on hand at the beginning of the year	63,869	43,008	121,991	139,123	204,478
Purchased during the year ...	37,623	121,903	125,309	204,394	92,952
Total ...	101,492	164,911	247,300	343,517	297,430

DISTRIBUTION.

HOME CONSUMPTION.
NATIVE STATES.
Baroda.

	Average of three years ending 1888-89.	1889-90.	1890-91.	1891-92.	1892-93.
	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.
Utilized in the manufacture of opium.	58,051	42,920	108,177	139,039	204,991
Stock on hand at the end of the year.	43,441	121,991	139,123	204,478	92,439
Total ...	101,492	164,911	247,300	343,517	297,430
Production and Purchase of Opium.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.
Stock on hand at the beginning of the year	191,704	130,473	99,971	135,870	191,047
Manufactured from juice ...	51,336	37,826	108,020	111,790	183,387
Imported from Málwa	...	...	...	27,033	...
Confiscated opium	73	42	59	52	36
Total Stock ...	243,113	168,341	208,050	274,745	374,470
Disposal of Opium.					
Exported to Bombay *vid* Ahmedabad.	27,018	...	...	...	...
Issued to licensed retailers ...	57,731	65,515	67,173	71,504	59,315
Total ...	84,749	65,515	67,173	71,504	59,315
Loss from dryage, &c.	2,435	2,855	5,007	12,194	10,136
Stock on hand at the end of the year.	155,929	99,971	135,870	191,047	305,019
Total of Exports and Sales, Loss and Balance	243,113	168,341	208,050	274,745	374,470

46. It will be seen from the above table that the area under poppy cultivation shows a falling off of 9,708 acres; but it is larger than the average for the three years ending 1888-89. The stocks of opium on the hands of the Baroda Government appear however to increase every year and those at the end of the year under report represent the highest figure of any previous year from 1889-90 and the average of three years ending 1888-89. Both these subjects have been reported upon in the correspondence ending with my No. 3715, dated the 20th July 1893, and are engaging the attention of Government.

47. The quantities which passed into consumption in each of the main divisions of His Highness the Gáekwár's dominions in each of the last four years and the average annual sales for the three years ending 1888-89 are shown in the subjoined table :—

Names of Divisions.	Annual average of three years ending 1888-89.	1889-90.	1890-91.	1891-92.	1892-93.
	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.
Navsári	3,052	3,043	3,549	3,526	3,606
Baroda	26,910	28,764	34,098	38,413	30,606
Kadi	17,906	19,476	16,482	18,362	12,755
Amreli	10,421	11,561	12,089	11,708	12,536
Total ...	58,289	62,844	66,218	72,009	59,503

48. The total sales of opium in the territories of His Highness the Gáekwár during the year under report show a decrease of 12,506 lbs. (or 17·35 per cent.); those in Navsári and Amreli Mahals slightly increased, but there was a considerable falling off in the Baroda and Kadi divisions. I am not supplied with any returns of opium smuggling cases detected in Baroda territory and, consequently, am unable to say whether the decrease in licit consumption is attributable to unexcised opium having passed into consumption to a greater extent or not.

DISTRIBUTION.

HOME CONSUMPTION.

NATIVE STATES.

Rate of licit consumption in British and Foreign Gujarát.

49. The following table shows the yearly rate of licit consumption per head of population for each of the last three years, in each British district in Gujarát, in each main division of His Highness the Gáekwár's dominions and of the province of Káthiáwár, and in the Native States of Kutch, Pálanpur, the Mahi Kánta, the Rewa Kánta, and Cambay, these being the parts of the Presidency in which opium is largely consumed :—

Names of Districts and States.	Population.	RATE OF LICIT CONSUMPTION PER HEAD OF POPULATION IN TOLAS.		
		1890-91.	1891-92.	1892-93.
British Gujarát—				
Ahmedabad	921,712	·83	·80	·66
Kaira	871,589	·52	·59	·46
Panch Mahals	313,417	·36	·41	·43
Broach	341,490	·90	1·02	1·03
Surat	649,989	·19	·20	·19
Baroda Territory—				
Navsári	319,487	·44	·44	·45
Baroda	812,560	1·68	1·89	1·51
Kadi...	1,098,720	·60	·67	·48
Amreli	179,492	2·69	2·61	2·79
Káthiáwár—				
Jhálávád	468,235	·60	·62	·71
Sorath	785,032	·70	·65	·76
Hálár	822,697	·74	·73	·74
Gohelvád	676,440	·71	·70	·70
Kutch State	558,415	·65	·58	·64
Pálanpur Superintendency ...	645,526	·81	·75	·76
Mahi Kánta Agency	581,568	·67	·65	·71
Rewa Kánta Agency... ...	733,506	·32	·34	·34
Cambay...	89,722	1·12	1·21	1·11

STATISTICS.

Number of opium, madat and chandul shops opened.

50. As desired by the Government of India in their letter No. 4189, dated 5th October 1891, embodied in Government Resolution No. 7278, dated 22nd idem, I subjoin a statement showing the number of shops licensed for the sale of opium and chandul and madat in each district of the Bombay Presidency during the year under report as compared with the previous two years :—

District.	1890-91.		1891-92.		1892-93.	
	Opium shops.	Chandul and Madat shops.	Opium shops.	Chandul and Madat shops.	Opium shops.	Chandul and Madat shops.
Bombay	11	19	11	19	11	17
Ahmedabad	175	4	155	2	155	...
Kaira...	139	...	154	...	149	...
Panch Mahals	34	...	34	...	34	...
Broach	50	1	50	1	50	...
Surat	21	4	22	4	23	...
Thána	18	6	20	6	16	...
Násik	40	8	41	6	41	...
Khándesh	111	33	104	23	100	...
Ahmednagar	51	2	52	3	52	...
Poona	50	13	50	12	50	...
Sholápur	43	6	43	5	42	...
Sátára	39	...	40	...	39	...
Belgaum	17	4	15	3	14	...
Dhárwár	24	2	19	2	22	...
Bijápur	18	2	17	2	17	...
Kánara	7	...	8	...	9	...
Ratnágiri	7	...	8	...	8	...
Kolába...	9	...	9	...	13	...
Hyderabad	97	3	96	3	99	...
Karáchi	86	5	79	5	80	...
Shikárpur	62	6	62	6	62	...
Thar and Párkar	46	...	45	...	48	...
Upper Sind Frontier ...	11	1	11	1	11	...
Total ...	1,166	119	1,145	103	1,145	17

STATISTICS.

Number of shops.

51. The total number of shops opened during the year under report for the sale of opium was the same as in the previous year. The increases and decreases in individual districts being small, do not call for special remarks. For the reasons stated in paragraph 4 above, the sale of chandul, madat and other preparations of opium was permitted only in the town and island of Bombay.

I may notice here that in addition to the shops mentioned above there were granted 389 licenses for the possession and sale of opium and certain preparations thereof for medical purposes only, to medical practitioners, druggists, &c., in the districts mentioned below :—

District.	No. of licenses.
Bombay	308
Ahmedabad	11
Surat	7
Poona	49
Belgaum	5
Kolába	3
Karáchi	6
	389

REALIZATIONS.

IMPERIAL.

Deductions for duty on home consumption.

52. I now proceed to sum up the financial results of the year's administration. It has been shown in paragraph 16 above that the duty on opium realized and brought to account during the year under report amounted to Rs. 1,61,38,943. Of this sum, Rs. 10,21,043 represent the duty on excised opium bought or imported for home consumption as shown below :—

	Rs.
183 chests imported on payment of duty at Rs. 700 per chest ...	1,28,100
1,276 chests imported on payment of duty at Rs. 600 per chest...	7,65,600
Differential duty on 1,269½ chests at Rs. 100 per chest, sold from the Bombay Central Warehouse as per paragraph 19, as follows :—	
155 chests to Native States ;	
757½ chests to licensed opium vendors of British districts ;	
357 chests to Government for supply of depôts ;	
and on 534 lbs. and 20 tolas of touch purchased by Government...	1,27,343
Total ...	10,21,043

53. This sum of Rs. 10,21,043 has been transferred in the civil accounts of this Presidency to the divided head "Excise," leaving Rs. 1,51,17,900 as the balance of the duty realizations under the Imperial head "Opium." It may, however, be mentioned that this sum includes an item of Rs. 34,200 on the 57 chests of opium exported from Bombay to Cochin and Allepey in the Madras Presidency to be adjusted in the accounts in that Presidency. The net duty on opium brought to Bombay for export to China and other places out of India amounts to Rs. 1,50,83,700 as against Rs. 1,75,29,300 in 1891-92 and Rs. 1,71,04,500 in the previous year. The decrease is due to the smaller imports of opium from Málwa.

54. The receipts on account of rent for the compartments of the Bombay Warehouse paid by the owners of opium stored therein under Rule 35 of the Bombay Opium Warehouse Rules sanctioned under Government Notification No. 4472, dated 3rd June 1885, and the fees realized on foreign opium imported into Bombay and Karáchi for transhipment or for re-exportation in the same bottom, under Rule 29 of the Bombay Opium Rules, sanctioned under Government Notification No. 4472 A of the

same date, are credited to the Imperial head "Opium." The receipts on account of each of these two items for each of the last two years are noted in the margin. The total number of chests of foreign opium brought to Bombay and transhipped in the harbour for China was 6,125, as against 6,769½ in 1891-92. Of these 2,634 paid the fees at Karáchi. Of the remaining 3,491 chests which paid the fees in Bombay, 1,196 were charged at the rate of Rs. 5; 1,276 at Rs. 4, and 1,019 at Rs. 3 per chest.

	1891-92.	1892-93.
	Rs.	Rs.
Warehouse rent ...	22,542	19,884
Transhipment and re-export fees ...	28,528	26,874

REALIZATIONS.

IMPERIAL.

Deductions for duty on home consumption.

55. Of the sum of Rs. 10,21,043 noted above as transferred to the head "Excise," Rs. 3,73,340 are on account of opium imported or bought by Native States or Chiefs, and out of this item Rs. 1,60,011 have been, or will be, refunded to those States or chiefs who are entitled under the terms of their agreements to remissions in full or in part of the pass-fee on opium consumed in their territory as shown in the sub-joined table :—

EXCISE OPIUM REVENUE.

Drawbacks allowed to Native States.

Name of State.	Quantity of Duty paid Opium bought.	Amount of Duty levied at Rs. 700 per Chest.	Duty refundable.		Net Duty to be retained by Government.	
			Rate.	Amount.	Rate.	Amount.
	Lbs.	Rs.		Rs. a. p.		Rs. a. p.
Cambay	681	3,500	Full ...	3,500 0 0	Nil ...	.....
Kutch...	8,439	43,400	One-third ...	14,467 0 0	Two-thirds ...	28,933 0 0
Káthiáwár	48,794	2,48,400	Do. ...	82,800 0 0	Do. ...	1,65,600 0 0
Pálanpur	5,507	27,535	Full ...	27,535 0 0	Nil ...	.....
Mahi Kánta	3,870	19,410	Do. ...	19,410 0 0	Do. ...	.....
Rewa Kánta	1,633	8,400	Do. ...	8,400 0 0	Do. ...	.....
Sátára Jághirs	1,260	6,400	One-tenth ...	640 0 0	Nine-tenths...	5,760 0 0
All other States	3,240	16,295	One-fifth ...	3,259 0 0	Four-fifths ...	13,036 0 0
Total ...	73,424	3,73,340	.....	1,60,011 0 0	.....	2,13,329 0 0

56. The balance of Rs. 10,21,043, after deducting the duty on opium bought for Native States, amounts to Rs. 6,47,703. This sum represents the duty on opium imported or purchased for consumption in British territory during the year under report. As remarked in previous reports, these figures, though they correctly represent the amount credited during the revenue year as an asset of excise revenue in the financial acccounts in respect of duty on opium consumed in British territory, do not of course correspond exactly with the duty, calculated at Rs. 700 per chest on the quantities actually sold at the shops during the same period, which forms the basis of the revenue returns. The difference between the two sets of figures represents roughly the extent to which the opening balances of opium in hand at the Government central and district depôts and at the shops have been increased or diminished by the year's transactions.

57. The following statement shows—

(*a*) the duty on the actual sales;

(*b*) the penalty duty paid by the farmer of the town and island of Bombay where the minimum guaranteed vend system was in force during the year under report, and, also that recovered, being the outstandings on the 1st August 1892 against the farmers of certain other districts, in which that system was in force in the previous year, and

(*c*) the license fees realized for the privilege of retailing opium and preparations of opium;

in each district of the Presidency in each of the last two years :—

REALIZATIONS.

EXCISE OPIUM REVENUE.

Names of Districts.	1891-92.				1892-93.			
	Duty on actual sales.	Penalty duty.	License fees.	Total.	Duty on actual sales.	Penalty duty.	License fees.	Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Bombay...	1,02,106	760	4,020	1,06,886	93,718	7,839	4,020	1,05,577
Ahmedabad	94,495	7,733	660	1,02,888	77,678	...	35	77,713
Kaira	65,921	6,250	...	72,171	51,593	...	...	51,963
Panch Mahâls	16,442	...	...	16,442	17,182	...	...	17,182
Broach	44,707	10,691	454	55,852	45,062	1	210	45,273
Surat	16,714	2,877	750	20,341	15,953	...	....	15,953
Thâna	6,850	333	409	7,592	5,462	...	...	5,462
Khândesh	77,961	12,187	5,834	95,982	67,202	213	494	67,909
Nâsik	27,417	850	805	29,072	27,381	...	...	27,381
Ahmednagar	51,660	1,372	1,167	54,199	48,302	...	...	48,302
Poona	46,301	...	2,839	49,140	46,265	...	566	46,831
Sholâpur	35,799	1,294	1,170	38,263	33,259	...	...	33,259
Sâtara	22,613	...	...	22,613	16,632	...	...	16,632
Belgaum	3,723	...	3,808	7,531	2,931	...	2,938	5,869
Dhârwâr	3,579	...	6,110	9,689	3,075	...	4,414	7,489
Bijâpur	1,887	...	845	2,732	2,515	...	952	3,467
Kânara	710	...	580	1,290	689	...	642	1,331
Ratnâgiri	1,394	...	513	1,907	1,399	...	561	1,960
Kolâba	3,276	82	7	3,365	3,749	...	3	3,752
Karâchi	25,221	...	3,116	28,337	22,769	...	...	22,767
Hyderabad	56,191	1,212	1,000	58,403	51,789	29	...	51,818
Shikârpur	17,553	245	2,897	20,695	18,221	109	175	18,505
Aden	761	...	2,100	2,861	715	...	1,803	2,518
Total, British Districts ...	7,23,281	45,886	39,084	8,08,251	6,53,909	8,191	16,813	6,78,913

Total Realizations.

58. The following is an abstract of the excise opium revenue from all sources for each of the last four years contrasted with the annual average of three years ending 1888-89. Details of refunds of revenue brought to account are also given in the statement:—

Names of Items.	Annual Average of three years ending 1888-89.	1889-90.	1890-91.	1891-92.	1892-93.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Opium duty	7,57,191	8,27,223	7,00,762	7,23,281	6,53,909
License-fees. For Opium Farms ...	57,946	15,343	14,313	14,772	14,985
License-fees. For Chandu and Madat Farms	34,966	28,725	28,785	24,312	1,828
Penalty for deficient sales by licensees	1,00,089	94,183	90,351	45,886	8,191
	9,50,192	9,65,474	8,34,211	8,08,251	6,78,913
Profit on sale of Government Opium .	33,066	1,586	26,633	25,744	12,605
Contribution for Government establishment	11,999	11,300	12,450	12,000	40,260
Fines and confiscations	13,273	7,895	8,600	10,677	3,255
Miscellaneous receipts...	495	1,035	929	743	403
Total for British Districts ...	10,09,025	9,87,290	8,82,823	8,57,415	7,35,436
Duty at reduced rates on Opium consumed in.					
Káthiáwár	1,59,924	1,63,187	1,62,967	1,65,750	1,65,600
Kutch	32,978	42,000	32,667	21,000	28,933
Other smaller States	10,703	12,010	12,564	15,731	18,796
Total for Native States ...	2,03,605	2,17,197	2,08,198	2,02,481	2,13,329
Grand Total ...	12,12,630	12,04,487	10,91,021	10,59,896	9,48,765
Refunds.					
License fees	...	...	222	...	...
Penalty for deficient sales	22,351	22,465	28,368	8,770	21,432
Fines and confiscations	33	...	...	79	...
Total Refunds ...	22,384	22,465	28,590	8,849	21,432
Net Revenue ...	11,90,246	11,82,022	10,62,431	10,51,047	9,27,333

REALIZATIONS.

EXCISE OPIUM REVENUE.

59. The total net excise opium receipts for the year 1892-93 were less than those of the previous year by Rs. 1,23,714. Of the total excise opium receipts, one-fourth is credited to the Provincial account and the remaining three-fourths to the Imperial account.

IMPERIAL AND PROVINCIAL.

60. The following statement shows the details of the several items of receipts comprising the total Imperial revenue of the Presidency from opium in each of the last three years. The net Provincial share of the Excise opium revenue for the same period is also shown in the statement below:—

Items.	1890-91.	1891-92.	1892-93.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Opium duty	1,81,90,233	1,86,59,970	1,61,38,943
Deduct—			
Duty on opium transferred to "Excise"	10,52,133	11,00,070	10,21,043
Duty on exports to Cochin and Allepey.	33,600	30,600	34,200
Net Opium Duty ...	1,71,04,500	1,75,29,300	1,50,83,700
Transhipment fees	26,790	28,528	26,874
Warehouse rent and other miscellaneous receipts	21,027	22,542	19,886
Total ...	1,71,52,317	1,75,80,370	1,51,30,460
Deduct—Refunds	860	.....	.....
Net Receipts ...	1,71,51,457	1,75,80,370	1,51,30,460
Add—Imperial share of Excise Receipts.	7,96,823	7,88,285	6,95,500
Total Imperial Receipts ...	1,79,48,280	1,83,68,655	1,58,25,960
Net Provincial share ...	2,65,608	2,62,762	2,31,833

The total Imperial and Provincial revenues from opium for the year under report show decreases of Rs. 25,42,695 and Rs. 30,929 respectively, as compared with the previous year.

EXPENDITURE.

61. The expenditure on account of a portion of the opium Establishment employed in Bombay and that employed at the Ahmedabad Opium Agency, which is debited under the Imperial head "Opium," amounted for the year 1892-93 to Rs. 25,955 as against Rs. 25,823 for the previous year. The expenditure on account of the Excise Opium Department is included in that of the Abkári Department, and cannot be separated. I, however, do not see any reason to modify the estimate of Rs. 30,000 given in the reports for the previous years as the approximate cost of the permanent Excise Opium Establishment. In addition to this, temporary Establishment at the approximate annual cost of Rs. 23,304 was engaged. Thus the total expenditure on account of Establishment was Rs. 53,304. Of this sum Rs. 40,260 have been recovered from some of the opium farmers, who are required by the terms of their licenses to contribute fixed sums on account of the Preventive Establishments.

62. In addition to the expenditure debited to the Imperial head "Opium" and to "Excise", compensation to the amount of Rs. 45,865 is annually paid to the Chief of Pálánpur and certain States and Tálukdárs in the Mahi Kánta and Rewa Kánta

EXPENDITURE. for loss of transit duties on opium, as shown in the following statement :—

Names of Native States.	Amount of annual compensation.	Government Resolution sanctioning the amount.
	Rs.	
Pálanpur	31,500	No. 2151—51 Confl., dated 1st April 1882, Revenue Department, and No. 7122, dated 11th November 1892, Political Department.
Mahi Kánta—		
I'dar, including Posina Putta	4,896 1,050	No. 180—7 Confl., dated 11th January 1881, Revenue Department, No. 1138—26 Confl., dated 24th February 1881, Revenue Department, and No. 778, dated 1st March 1881, Financial Department.
Kheroj	40	
Tintoi	60	
Cross Road Rudardi ...	46	
Jadicha Putta ...	90	
Moti Mori Meghráj ...	40	
Mágori	50	
A'mliyára	190	No. 1368—34 Confl., dated 8th March 1881, Revenue Department, and No. 928, dated 11th March 1881, Financial Department.
Sáthumba	64	
Ranásan	75	
Bolundra	27	
Katosan	600	
Total ...	7,228	
Rewa Kánta—		
Rájpipla	500	
Báriya	500	
Lunávada	150	
Sunth	150	
Bálásinor	50	No. 179—6 Confl., dated 11th January 1881, Revenue Department.
Chhota Udepur ...	2,808	
Kadána	25	
Sanjeli	75	No. 778, dated 1st March 1881, Financial Department.
Thákor of Nasvádi ...	184	
Do. of Vajiria ...	100	No. 2675, dated 24th April 1882, Revenue Department.
Do. of Vasanvirpur...	85	
Do. of Gad ...	325	No. 3658—171 Confl., dated 26th September 1882, Financial Department.
Do. of Agar ...	74	
Do. of Sindhiápur ...	79	
Do. of Vanmála ...	39	
Do. of Pálásni ...	63	
Do. of Cháliar ...	250	
Do. of Sihora ...	1,000	
Do. of Poicha ...	60	
Do. of Raeka ...	20	
Total ...	7,137	
Grand Total ...	45,865	

OFFENCES.

NUMBER OF CASES ADJUDICATED.

63. The subjoined table shows the number of cases under the Opium Act investigated by Magistrates, the number of cases in which convictions were obtained, the number of cases dismissed, and the aggregate quantity of opium seized in each British district and Native States (except Baroda, for which no returns are received), side by side with the corresponding figures for the previous year :—

OFFENCES.

NUMBER OF CASES ADJUDICATED.

British Districts.

Districts.	1891-92.							1892-93.						
	Cases in which convictions were obtained.		Cases dismissed.		Total cases brought up.		Quantity of contraband Opium seized.	Cases in which convictions were obtained.		Cases dismissed.		Total cases brought up.		Quantity of contraband Opium seized.
	No. of Cases.	No. of Persons.	No. of Cases.	No. of Persons.	No. of Cases.	No. of Persons.		No. of Cases.	No. of Persons.	No. of Cases.	No. of Persons.	No. of Cases.	No. of Persons.	
							Lbs. t. gr.							Lbs. t. gr.
Bombay	50	91	10	37	60	128	167 0 66	41	59	5	12	46	71	27 31 141
Ahmedabad	167	171	15	31	182	202	232 7 161	247	248	12	13	259	261	45 34 102
Kaira	21	21	5	5	26	26	4 20 26	32	32	...	...	32	33	2 15 88
Panch Mahâls	31	34	9	12	40	46	25 8 62	33	34	11	12	44	46	114 15 1
Broach	12	12	9	9	21	21	13 22 78	19	19	2	2	21	21	14 24 133
Surat	4	4	...	...	4	4	3 8 45	13	13	1	2	14	15	0 28 11
Thâna	...	...	1	1	1	1	0 14 48	3	3	1	1	4	4	0 19 79
Kolâba	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....
Khándesh	36	36	11	14	47	50	155 14 26	48	50	9	10	57	60	294 7 45
Násik	6	11	2	2	8	13	160 27 0	...	...	1	1	1	1	0 11 6
Ahmednagar	4	4	...	...	4	4	0 20 45	3	3	...	...	3	3	0 18 20
Sholápur	2	2	...	...	2	2	0 15 65	3	3	5	5	8	8	0 21 68
Poona	5	6	1	1	6	7	0 34 7	9	11	3	6	12	17	49 18 34
Sátára	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	4	6	1	1	5	7	0 27 81
Belgaum	1	1	...	...	1	1	0 1 68	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....
Dhárwár	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....
Bijápur	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	1	1	...	...	1	1	0 32 90
Kánara	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....
Ratnágiri	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....
Karáchi	1	1	1	1	2	2	1 21 135	8	8	1	1	9	9	1 2 123
Hyderabad	1	1	...	...	1	1	3 0 0	7	7	1	1	8	8	0 36 77
Shikárpur	11	11	2	2	13	13	1 8 83	5	7	1	1	6	8	0 38 89
Upper Sind Frontier...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	1	2	...	...	1	2	0 24 159
Thar and Párkar ...	21	24	...	...	21	24	14 35 144	28	29	2	2	30	31	64 10 103
Aden	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....
Total ...	373	430	66	115	439	545	784 19 159	505	536	56	70	561	606	620 18 20

Native States.

Native States.	1891-92.							1892-93.						
	Cases in which convictions were obtained.		Cases dismissed.		Total cases brought up.		Quantity of contraband Opium seized.	Cases in which convictions were obtained.		Cases dismissed.		Total cases brought up.		Quantity of contraband Opium seized.
	No. of Cases.	No. of Persons.	No. of Cases.	No. of Persons.	No. of Cases.	No. of Persons.		No. of Cases.	No. of Persons.	No. of Cases.	No. of Persons.	No. of Cases.	No. of Persons.	
							Lbs. t. g.							Lbs. t. g.
Kutch	11	20	...	1	11	21	6 29 152	3	4	...	4	3	8	6 30 0
Káthiáwár	17	18	5	8	22	26	89 24 147	6	6	1	1	7	7	129 22 80
Pálanpur	25	30	1	1	26	31	113 6 56	52	56	2	3	54	59	117 2 68
Mahi Kánta	30	34	7	13	37	47	33 20 108	18	21	1	2	19	23	24 9 174
Rewa Kánta	55	86	...	1	56	87	132 21 54	99	113	...	9	99	122	203 22 64
Kolhápur and Southern Maratha Country States under Surat Agency	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	3	4	...	...	3	4	1 16 18
	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	2	2	...	...	2	2	0 11 60
Total ...	138	188	13	24	151	212	375 22 157	183	206	4	19	187	225	482 34 104
GRAND TOTAL ...	511	618	79	139	590	757	1,160 2 136	688	742	60	89	748	831	1,103 12 124

64. The total number of opium cases detected in British districts during the year under report increased by 122 over those detected in the previous year. There was however a decrease of 164 lbs. in the total quantity of the opium seized, the districts showing the largest decreases being Bombay, (139 lbs.), Ahmedabad, (186 lbs.), and Násik, (160 lbs.)—the districts which showed large increases in the previous year. Ahmedabad, however, shows an increase of 77 in the number of offences detected, most of them being petty cases of opium found in excess of two tolas in possession of persons, travelling by railway, for private consumption.

LIBRARY

OFFENCES.

NUMBER OF CASES ADJUDICATED.

Native States.

65. In the Native States the total number of cases detected increased by 36, and the total quantity of opium by 107 lbs. Káthiáwár and Rewa Kánta show increases of 40 lbs. and 71 lbs. respectively. It is thus evident that smuggling is still largely prevalent in Gujarát in spite of the efforts made to check it by the detective Agencies employed both in British territory and in Native States.

Cases in which the quantity of opium seized exceeded 40 lbs.

66. The following are the cases in which the quantity of contraband opium seized exceeded 40 lbs :—

(1) A seizure of 96 lbs. 30 tolas was made by the Deesa Police in Pálanpur in September 1892. In this case the opium was imported by some Chárans of Nesada, a village in Junágad, from Meywár and was seized whilst in transit through the village of Vithodar, the information having been given to the Police by some of the villagers. According to the statement of the accused the opium was given to them by some Bhils in Meywár in exchange for buffaloes sold to them, that they had travelled through Jodhpur and Udepur and that they were bound to their native place Nesada in Junágad.

(2) A seizure of 105 lbs. 26 tolas 90 grains was made in the Rewa Kánta in March 1893. In this case the contraband opium was brought from Ujjain by two Kábuli Patháns on a camel to the village of Piplej belonging to Udepur. On their enquiring for the direct route to Bodeli, which was their destination, the villagers suspected them and informed the Udepur Police who followed the smugglers and found the opium on searching the camel.

(3) Another seizure of 51 lbs. 33 tolas 90 grains was effected in the Rewa Kánta in May 1893. In this case the contraband opium was found in the possession of two villagers of Sália in Báriya State. Information of the opium was obtained by the Duffadár of the Piplod Thána, who detected and seized the smugglers.

(4) One seizure of 84 lbs. 18 tolas was made at the Wadhwán Railway Station in February 1893 by the station authorities. In this case the opium had been sent from Pipalya on the Rájputána-Málwa Railway to Muli in a consignment of 24 tins purporting to contain sweet oil and carefully secured in 12 boxes. When the consignment arrived at the Wadhwán Junction, the description of the consignment given in the invoice raised the suspicion of the station master, since it was unusual to import sweet oil from such a distance. He therefore examined the consignment in the presence of the Railway Police, when he found that 3 of the tins contained opium. With a view to effect the capture of the smuggler the opium was forwarded to Muli, but as no one appeared to claim it, it was confiscated. The consignment had been booked by one Náran Lakshman of Wadhwán to himself. But the proceedings at the Wadhwán Station were so public and so much delay took place in forwarding the consignment to Muli that the consignee became aware of what had happened and, absconding, escaped arrest. Arrangements have been made with the Political Agent, Káthiáwár, and the Inspector General of Police, which, it is hoped, may prevent a similar mishap in future.

67. The percentages of convictions on the number of cases brought up were 90 for the British districts and 98 for Native States in 1892-93, and 85 and 91 respectively in 1891-92.

OFFENCES.

CLASSIFICATION OF OFFENCES.

British Districts.

68. The following is an abstract of the particulars of the opium cases detected in British districts of the Bombay Presidency in the year under report as compared with the previous year :—

Nature of Offence.	Number of Cases brought up.	Number of Persons tried.	Number of Persons discharged or acquitted.	Number of Persons Convicted.	Nature and Amount of Punishment awarded.					
					Rigorous Imprisonment.	Simple Imprisonment.	Fines.			
							Total amount adjudged.	Amount recovered.	Amount not recovered.	Imprisonment awarded in default of payment.
1891-92.					Days.	Days.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Days.
Illegal cultivation of poppy... ...	1	1	...	1	...	...	15 0 0	15 0 0	.....	...
Do. manufacture of opium... ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	.....	.....	...
Do. possession of opium... ...	186	213	58	155	3,590	90	4,028 8 0	2,443 8 0	1,585 0 0	1,008
Do. transport of opium... ...	3	7	4	3	...	...	625 0 0	600 0 0	25 0 0	4
Do. import of opium.	191	211	24	187	3,638	...	2,764 7 0	2,181 7 0	583 0 0	436
Do. export of do. ...	18	22	5	17	90	...	458 0 0	408 0 0	50 0 0	30
Do. sale of do. ...	38	89	24	65	120	7	759 9 0	494 9 0	265 0 0	200
Breach of condition of license	2	2	...	2	90	...	51 0 0	51 0 0	.....	...
Total ...	439	545	115	430	7,528	97	8,701 8 0	6,193 8 0	2,508 0 0	1,678
1892-93.										
Illegal cultivation of poppy... ...	2	2	...	2	60	...	130 0 0	130 0 0	.....	...
Do. manufacture of opium... ...	3	4	1	3	60	...	200 0 0	200 0 0	.....	...
Do. possession of opium... ...	236	257	44	213	2,780	850	6,163 8 0	4,204 5 0	1,959 3 0	920
Do. transport of opium... ...	17	24	5	19	...	6	177 0 0	177 0 0	.....	...
Do. import of opium.	269	280	10	270	1,538	2	3,462 10 0	2,699 13 6	762 12 6	914
Do. export of do. ...	3	3	1	2	...	...	76 0 0	76 0 0	.....	...
Do. sale of do. ...	30	35	9	26	376	1	1,217 0 0	955 0 0	262 0 0	175
Breach of condition of license	1	1	...	1	...	...	10 0 0	10 0 0	.....	...
Total ...	561	606	70	536	4,814	859	11,436 2 0	8,452 2 6	2,983 15 6	2,009

Native States.

69. The following is an abstract of similar particulars regarding foreign territory :—

Nature of offence.	Number of Cases brought up.	Number of Persons tried.	Number of Persons discharged or acquitted.	Number of Persons convicted.	Nature and Amount of Punishment awarded.					
					Rigorous Imprisonment.	Simple Imprisonment.	Fines.			
							Total amount adjudged.	Amount recovered.	Amount not recovered.	Imprisonment awarded in default of payment.
1891-92.					Days.	Days.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Days.
Illegal cultivation of poppy... ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	.....	.....	...
Do. possession of opium... ...	113	152	21	131	2,020	126	1,999 10 3	1,242 6 3	757 4 0	467
Do. transport of opium... ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	.....	.....	...
Do. import of opium.	35	54	3	51	2,860	133	2,632 5 4	1,029 8 0	1,602 13 4	744
Do. sale of do. ...	3	6	...	6	...	...	67 3 9	67 3 9	.....	...
Do. export of do. ...	...	...	..	...	...	...	.....	.....	.....	...
Total ...	151	212	24	188	4,880	259	4,699 3 4	2,339 2 0	2,360 1 4	1,211
1892-93.										
Illegal cultivation of poppy... ...	2	2	...	2	60	...	20 0 0	20 0 0	.....	...
Do. possession of opium ...	128	150	14	136	1,281	122	2,813 11 1	2,381 11 1	432 0 0	415
Do. transport of opium ...	1	1	...	1	...	...	51 0 0	51 0 0	.....	...
Do. import of opium.	53	68	5	63	1,908	101	1,411 0 0	628 0 0	783 0 0	470
Do. export of do. ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	.....	.....	...
Do. sale of do. ...	3	4	...	4	...	...	245 0 0	245 0 0	.....	...
Total ...	187	225	19	206	3,249	223	4,540 11 1	3,325 11 1	1,215 0 0	885

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

T. D. MACKENZIE,

Commissioner of Customs, Salt, Opium and Abkári.

Statement showing the number of Chests actually imported under Passes into Bombay, and the amount of Duty actually realized and finally brought to account, as compared with the number of Chests for which Passes were granted and the Duty secured at the Agencies in each of the ten Revenue years from 1883-84 to 1892-93.

Years.	Number of Chests actually imported into Bombay in each year.				Number of Chests for which Passes were granted and Duty realized in current year, but which were lost on the road.	Number of Chests for which Passes were granted and duty realized in current year, but which did not arrive during the year.	Total number of Chests for which Duty was realized and credited in current year. Total of Columns 3, 4, 6 and 7.	Rate of Duty per Chest.	Amount of Duty realized and brought to account.	Number of Chests for which Passes were granted, but Duty not realized and Chests not arrived during the year.	Amount of Duty outstanding on Chests in Column 11.	Total number of Chests for which Passes were granted during current year and the amount of Duty due thereon.		Remarks.
	Under passes granted in previous year.		Under Passes granted during current year.	Total number of Chests imported. Aggregate of Columns 2, 3 and 4.								Chests—Total of Columns 4, 6, 7 and 11.	Duty—Total of Columns 10 and 12 less Duty on Chests in Column 3.	
	Duty having been realized and credited in that year.	Duty being realized in current year.												
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
											Rs.		Rs.	
1883-84 ...	172	536½	40,220½	40,929	...	133	154 163½ 40,572½	700 675 650	2,65,90,287½	1,782	11,58,300	42,135⅓	2,73,99,862½	
1884-85 ...	133	1,782	39,460	41,375	...	186	246½ 103½ 41,078	700 675 650	2,69,43,112½	1,686	10,95,900	41,332	2,68,80,712½	
1885-86 ...	186	1,686	37,344½	39,216½	...	23	288½ 38,765	700 650	2,53,99,200	1,403½	9,13,275	38,771	2,52,16,575	
1886-87 ...	23	1,403½	38,027½	39,454	...	96½	313½ 39,214	700 650	2,57,08,550	1,507	9,80,350	39,631	2,57,75,625	
1887-88 ...	96½	1,507	37,113	38,716½	...	2	533 14 38,075	700 675 650	2,51,31,300	10	6,500	37,125	2,41,57,450	
1888-89 ...	2	10	31,605	31,617	...	...	31,254 361 2,342	650 700 600	2,05,67,800	21	13,850	31,626	2,05,75,150	
1889-90 ...	...	21	28,814½	28,835½	...	22½	26,208½ 307½	650 700	1,86,56,125	7½	5,250	28,844½	1,86,47,375	
1890-91 ...	22½	7½	30,049½	30,079½	...	10	29,774½ 292½	600 700	1,80,69,450	26½	17,400	30,086	1,80,81,600	
1891-92 ...	10	26½	30,812	30,848½	...	...	30,497 341½	600 700	1,85,37,250	297½	1,78,650	31,109½	1,86,98,500	
1892-93 ...	...	297½	26,358	26,655½	...	...	26,472½ 183	600 700	1,60,11,600	708½	4,25,700	27,066½	1,62,58,650	

T. D. MACKENZIE,
Commissioner of Customs, Salt, Opium and Ábkári.

Opium: Report on the Administration of the Opium Department of the Bombay Presidency for the year 1892-93.

No. 2430.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Bombay Castle, 4th April 1894.

Letter from the Commissioner of Customs, Salt, Opium, and A'bkári, No. 6328, dated 10th December 1893—Submitting his report on the Administration of the Opium Department of the Bombay Presidency for 1892-93.

RESOLUTION.—The total number of chests of opium weighed and passed at the scales for export to different parts of India was 28,502 as compared with 32,570¼ in the previous year. The exports to the Bombay Presidency decreased by 4,175 chests, owing to the depression of trade with China. The exports to other places do not show any marked variation except in the case of those to the Madras Presidency which rose by 78½ chests. No Ajmere or Baroda opium was brought to the scales during the year under review, while the quantity of Dungarpur opium exported decreased by 7½ chests.

2. The number of chests actually imported into the Bombay Presidency was 26,802, of which 26,655½ were duty-paid and 146½ duty-free. Of these 26,472½ were lodged in the Government Central Warehouse and 329½ were conveyed direct to their destinations, 146½ to Native States free of duty and 183 to opium farmers on payment of duty. The removals from the warehouse amounted to 26,588½ chests as against 30,421 in the previous year, though the balance in hand was decreased from 476 to 372 chests.

3. Of the opium removed from the Central Warehouse 25,312½ chests were exported to foreign countries. During the year 1891-92, the trade with China showed some improvement, and the number of chests exported was 707 in excess of the exports of 1890-91, but during the year under review there was a large falling off to the extent of 3,878½ chests. This is partly attributed to the change in the currency laws towards the close of the year, which disturbed the trade with China. The average market price in Bombay rose by 39 rupees per chest above that of 1891-92. The total quantity of opium (excluding stock in hand) placed on sale during the year under review for home consumption is shown in the following table :—

	British Districts.		Native States.	
	1891-92.	1892-93.	1891-92.	1892-93.
	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.
Issued from Government Local Depôt ...	23,997	21,722	24,047	29,868
„ „ Main Depôt ...	...	...	816	953
Imported direct from Málwa ... ... Free	...	...	37,975 (inclusive of Baroda).	19,948
Imported direct from Málwa ... ... On payment ...	18,103	3,403	28,379	21,566
Purchased in market	99,633	103,104	15,448	21,997
Total ...	141,733	128,229	106,665	93,364

4. The average rate at which purchases were made for the Government Depôts was Rs. 9-6-0 per lb. as against Rs. 9-3-8 in the previous year. The issue rate was Rs. 9-12-0 per lb. up to the 14th February 1893 in the Presidency proper, after which date it was reduced to Rs. 9-8-0 in all districts, except Ahmedabad, Kaira, the Panch Maháls, Broach and Surat, and the depôts at Rájkot, Sádra, Pálanpur and Baroda Cantonment, where it was raised to Rs. 10. Proposals have been submitted by the Commissioner of Customs, Salt, Opium, and A'bkári for a change in the issue rate of opium, the consideration of which has been held over until a further report from the Commissioner is received. The net profit of the depôts amounted to Rs. 12,605. The total quantity issued was 52,990 lbs.

5. The quantity of opium which actually passed into consumption in British Districts was 127,149 lbs., or 13,489 lbs. less than in 1891-92. The decreases in the districts noted in the margin are noteworthy. The year under report has been marked by several important administrative changes, viz., the abolition of the minimum guaranteed vend system, the reduction of the limit quantity which may legally be sold to or possessed by one person without special permit from 10 to 2 tolás, and the closing of the chandul and madat shops throughout the Presidency except in Bombay City, where, however, the change is now in force. To these changes the smaller sales of licit opium in the districts referred to must be for the most part ascribed.

	Lbs.
Ahmedabad	3,270
Kaira	2,714
Bombay	1,631
Sátára	1,163
Khándesh	2,092

6. The total quantity of opium supplied to Native States (excluding Baroda) was 93,364 lbs. as compared with 88,971 lbs. in 1891-92. The sales in Mahi Kántha are in excess of the previous year by 943 lbs. and are also higher than the figures for the years 1889-90 and 1890-91, and the average of these years ending 1888-89 and not below those figures as stated in paragraph 43 of the report. The area under poppy cultivation in Baroda fell from 15,441 to 5,733 acres, but the stock in hand rose from 191,047 to 305,019 lbs. Both these subjects are still under the consideration of Government.

7. The returns of opium cases show an increase in the number of cases detected in British Districts and a decrease in the quantity of opium seized. Ahmedabad shows an increase of 77 in the number of offences detected, most of them being petty. In the Native States the total number of cases detected increased by 36 and the total quantity of opium by 107 lbs. Smuggling is still said to be prevalent in Gujarát in spite of the efforts made to check it.

8. The revenue derived from opium under the heads "Opium" and "Excise" is shown below:—

		Rs.
Opium	1891-92	1,75,80,370
	1892-93	1,51,30,460
Excise	1891-92	10,51,047
	1892-93	9,27,333

The falling off in revenue has been already explained. The expenditure figures do not show any variations of importance.

W. L. HARVEY,
Under Secretary to Government.

To

The Commissioner of Customs, Salt, Opium, and A'bkári,

[*P. T. O.*

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The Commissioner in Sind,
The Commissioner, N. D.,
The Commissioner, C. D.,
The Commissioner, S. D.,
The Collector and Political Agent, Kaira,
The Collector and Political Agent, Thána,
The Collector and Political Agent, Kolába,
The Collector and Political Agent, Sholápur,
The Collector and Political Agent, Sátára,
The Collector and Political Agent, Dhárwár,
All other Collectors, including the Collectors and Deputy Commissioners in Sind,
The Accountant General,
The Collector of Customs and Salt Revenue in Sind,
The Political Agent, Káthiáwár,
The Political Agent, Cutch,
The Political Agent, Rewa Kántha,
The Political Agent, Mahi Kántha,
The Political Agent, Kolhápur and Southern Marátha Country,
The Political Superintendent, Pálanpur,
The Political Superintendent, Sávantvádi,
The Agent to His Excellency the Governor at Surat,
The Private Secretary to His Excellency the Governor,
The Political Department of the Secretariat.

} With copies of the report.

The Agent to the Governor General at Baroda,
The Government of India,
The Secretary of State for India.

} By letter.

No. of 1894.

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